Serial No. 09/483,816   A. Partyka 17

Claims

No claim is amended in this Amendment:

1   1. (previously presented) A network comprising:

2   at least three nodes, and

3   each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of

4 transmission opportunities of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission

5 opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node, and

6   each of at least two of said nodes comprising logic for holding data indicative of an expected time

7 and an expected frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes,

8 and

9   each of said at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions at

10 transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.

1   2. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:

2   said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined

3 according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1   3. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and

3 frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1   4. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:

2   transmitting, from each node, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node,

3 and transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another

4 node, and

5   holding, each of at least two of said nodes, data indicative of an expected time and an expected

6 frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and

7   receiving, at each of said at least two of said nodes, transmissions at transmission opportunities of

8 at least one of said plurality of nodes.

1   5. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

2   determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at each said node,

3 according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1   6. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

2   transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are

3 determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1

- 2 of 6 -

Serial No. 09/483,816   A. Partyka 17

1   7. (original) A network node comprising:

2   a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities

3   of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data

4   transmission to another node, and

5   logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one

6   future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and

7   a receiver for receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality

8   of nodes.

1   8. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:

2   said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined

3   according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1   9. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and

3   frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1   10. (original) A method of operating a network node comprising:

2   transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node, and

3   transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node,

4   and

5   holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future

6   transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and

7   receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.

1   11. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2   determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at said node,

3   according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1   12. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2   transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are

3   determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1   13. (original) A network comprising:

2   at least three nodes, and

3   each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions,

4   wherein said node is capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information

5   of other nodes timing, and

- 3 of 6 -

Serial No. 09/483,816   A. Partyka 17

6   each of at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of

7   a plurality of said nodes, and said receiver comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking

8   contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a plurality of said nodes.

1   14. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2   said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an

3   expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1   15 (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time

3   intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each

4   said node.

1   16. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined

3   according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1   17. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:

2   producing, at each node, timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for

3   transmissions, and transmitting data according to said timing, and

4   tracking, at said each node, contemporaneously timing for transmission of a plurality of nodes,

5   and

6   receiving transmissions, at said each node, from at least one of said plurality of nodes in

7   accordance with said tracking.

1   18. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2   holding, at said each node, data indicative of an expected time and an expected requency of at

3   least one future transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1   19 (original) A network node comprising:

2   a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions, wherein said node is

3   capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information of other nodes'

4   timing, and

5   a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of a plurality of nodes, and said receiver

6   comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a

7   plurality of nodes.

8

- 4 of 6 -

Serial No. 09/483,816   A. Partyka 17

8

1   20. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:

2   said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an

3   expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1   21. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time

3   intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said

4   node.

1   22. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:

2   said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined

3   according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1   23. (previously presented) A method of operating a network node comprising:

2   producing timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for transmissions,

3   and transmitting data according to said timing, and

4   tracking contemporaneously timing for transmission of each of a plurality of nodes, and

5   receiving transmissions from at least one of said plurality of nodes in accordance with said

6   tracking.

1   24. (original) The method of claim 23 further comprising:

2   holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future

3   transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.